CAMP WHITE
GRENADE II

"Preserving the Past for the Future"

VOLUME 3, NO. 2 NEWSLETTER OF THE CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION AUGUST 1998

THE ASSOCIATION'S NEW BANNER

In a joint effort with the Southern Oregon Military Vehicle Collectors Club (SOMVCC) the Camp White Historical Association's new red, white and blue banner is carried on Emmett Ramey's 5-ton Military Truck. Ramey, board member of both organizations, participates in all parades in the area, and proudly presents our Banner. This is one way we try to gain support from our local communities. The members of the Camp White Historical Association and Museum want to share this information with other fellow members.

BIRTH OF THE "CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION"

About seven years ago a small group got together at a local cafe in Medford to try and start an organization to preserve the history of Camp White, Oregon, the two outstanding Divisions—the 91st and the 96th—and all the Camp White Support elements. We have come a long way with this organization to preserve the past military history for the future. At this time the present board members want to say a special thank you to the group that started the CWHA. If your name doesn't get into this printing and you feel it should have, please send your story to the president of the CWHA. Thanks again!

Charlie White
Al Johnson
Dr. Chris Hald
John Crawford
Mel Cotton
Roy Erickson
Thomas Hafey
Robert Verbick
Francis Duyer
Otto Ewaldsen
Charles H.. Clarke
Doris Shafer
Art Mageniti
Ruth Niedermeyer
Betty Rodemeyer
Bill Johnson
George Kramer
Ed Barnett
Loran Messenger
M.J. Krug
Marjorie Edens
Claud Curtwright
Randy Hugdahl
Larry Quirk
Robert Wright
Dr. Ralph Hibbs
Ed Zander
Bienz Bertram
Charles Milam
Orin Bartholomew
Dr. Abner

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Al Inlow

Dear friends:

I would like to introduce myself as the newly elected President of the Camp White Historical Association and Museum. I am proud to accept this position. I will support all our members and friends to the utmost of my ability.

I served in the military for more than 28 years, at home and in Germany, Italy, Korea, and Vietnam. In 1977, I retired from the Army and in 1993, from Civil Service.

I'm very familiar with the history of Camp White because I grew up in the Rogue Valley. I watched the camp being built in 1942 and saw it being taken down after the war. At present I live on the old southwest border of Camp White behind Roxy Ann.

My father was an historian of Oregon's past. I also am interested in Oregon's history, but my focus is mainly related to the military. Our present goal is to expand our museum so we can display more military memorabilia. I hope to keep everyone informed of our future progress through Grenade II.

Sincerely,

Al Inlow

Al Inlow, President
Camp White Historical Association and Museum

OFFICERS, 1998-99

President ..... **Al Inlow**
Vice President ..... **Betty Welburn**
Secretary/Treasurer ..... **Judie Bunch**
Executive Director ..... **Walter Dye**
Collections Curator ..... **Del Hussey**
Museum Manager ..... **Carolyn Sharrock**

The Grenade accepts suggestions and contributions from readers. If you have a story idea or appropriate event to promote, write Carolyn Sharrock at P.O. Box 2373, White City, OR 97503.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Charles Milam

Charles Milam, one of our dedicated museum Volunteers, has retired. At this time, the Camp White Historical Association officers and members wish to thank Charles for his faithful service to this organization. He still resides in Medford with his wife Gladys.

Charles was born in Urbana, Missouri, on June 28, 1919, the day the Treaty of Marseilles was signed. He joined the Army in February 1941. Charlie, as his friends call him, was first stationed at Fort Lewis, 41st Division, B Battery, 146th Field Artillery. General George White was in command of the 41st Division—the same General White for whom Camp White was named.

Charlie arrived at the new Camp White in September 1942, only two weeks after its dedication. As troops arrived, the necessary units were activated to handle their care and training. Charlie was a Drill Sergeant in the Quartermaster Corp under Captain Frank. Frank was a "retread." He had retired after 30 years in the Army but was recalled when we entered the war. According to Charlie he had come up through the ranks—a really good guy.

Charlie recalls that when Captain Frank told him he was going to make him a 1st Sgt. he felt sick and wished the cement floor would swallow him up. It was a big responsibility to be in charge of 300 men. He also remembers a "powder monkey" from the east who was always in the second rank when drilling even though he was tall. As Charlie watched, it seemed that this man could anticipate the next command and by his actions, Charlie got the idea that the man might be deaf. Charlie came up behind the man and spoke to him. The man did not respond. Sure enough, he was deaf. Needless to say, he was on his way home very soon.

Charlie has served 105 1/4 hours in the museum from the time it opened last Veteran's Day through May of 1998. He always had a funny story to tell, and a smile for everyone. Thursdays aren't the same since he left. Charlie was not only a good soldier and good volunteer—but he also makes the most wonderful bread!!

HISTORY ON DISPLAY:
CHARLES A WHITE

Sgt. White enlisted in the army in January of 1940. His initial assignment was with the First Cavalry Division at Ft. Bliss, Texas. The First Cavalry Division was organized 31 August, 1921 at Ft. Bliss. Units from the Division date back to the 5th U.S. Cavalry (1855) commanded by Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee and the 7th Cavalry, which in 1876 met Crazy Horse at the Little Big Horn.

In early 1941 several officers and men of the First Cavalry were selected to serve as the cadre of what was to become the 91st Division. The Division was to be organized and trained at Camp White, Oregon. Sgt. White arrived at this post in June of 1942 with 1279 other N.C.O.s and 529 officers.

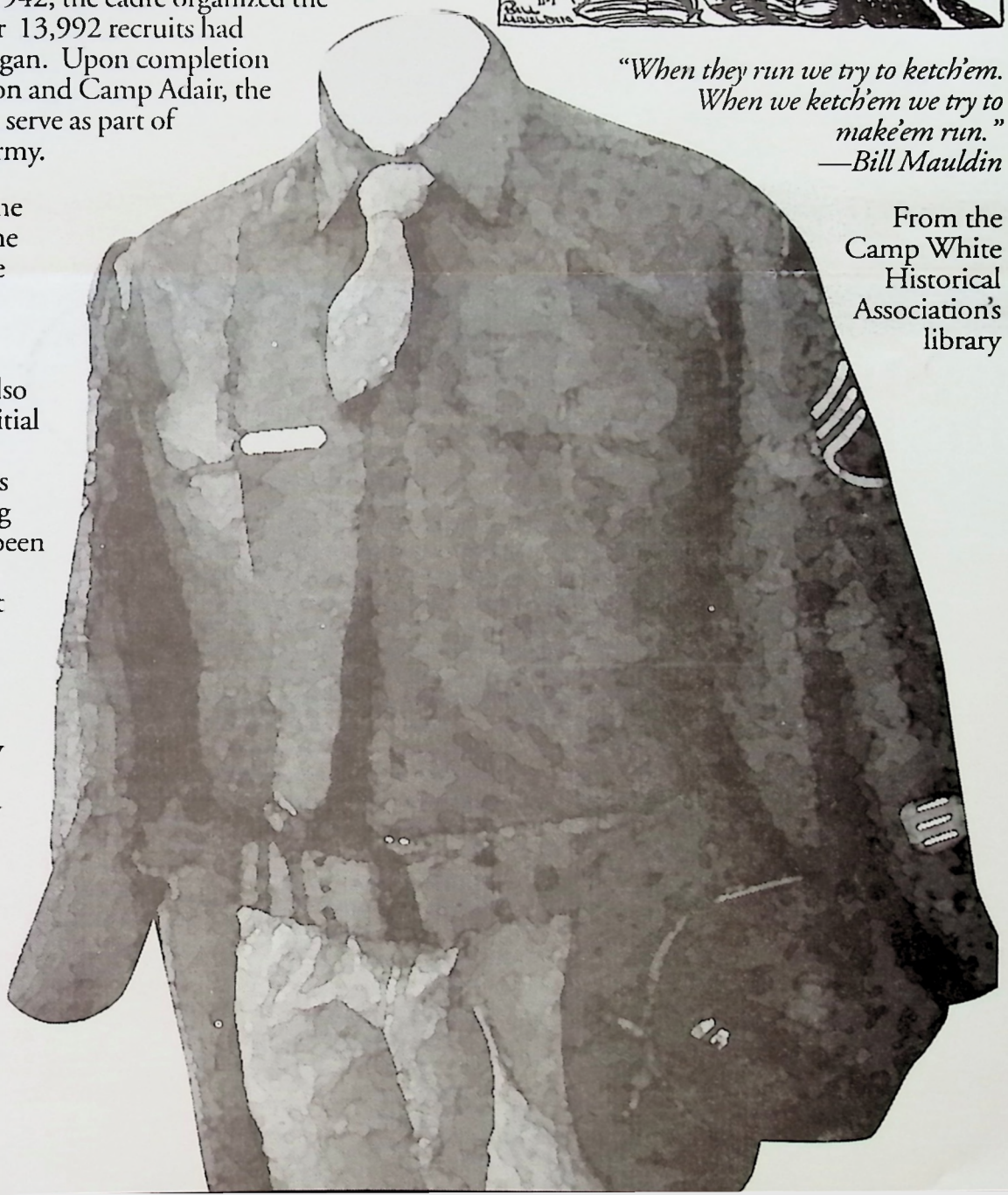
During July and August of 1942, the cadre organized the new post and by November 13,992 recruits had arrived and basic training began. Upon completion of exercises in Central Oregon and Camp Adair, the Division was sent to Italy to serve as part of General Mark Clark's 5th Army.

Sgt. White's experiences in the Italian campaign included the capture of 66 Germans. The Sergeant had volunteered to escort one POW to a rear area when he was contacted by 65 other Germans who also surrendered. Because the initial assignment was routine, the Sergeant had not checked his weapon. Later, after realizing what the results could have been had the POWs attempted to overpower him, the Sergeant discovered he had only 3 rounds in his gun.

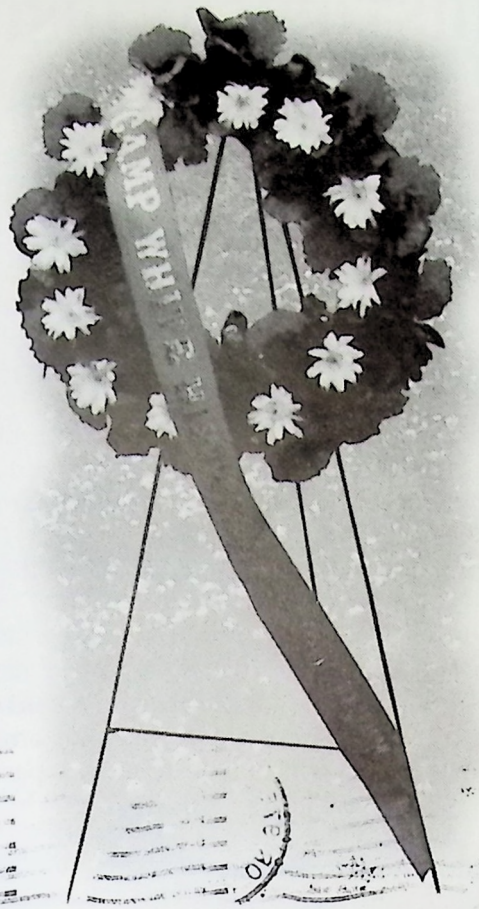
After the war, Sgt. White returned to the Rogue Valley where he worked in the logging industry and eventually for the Bear Creek Corporation.

"When they run we try to ketch'em. When we ketch'em we try to make'em run."
—Bill Mauldin

From the Camp White Historical Association's library



CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION HONORS VIETNAM VETS AT TRAVELING WALL



Camp White Historical Association honored the men and women who lost their lives in Vietnam by placing a wreath at the traveling Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall on June 25, 1998. Representing the Association were current Association President Al Inlow, Vice President Betty Welburn, Collections Curator Del Hussey, board member Rod Boren, and past Association president and current board member Mel Cotton.

The wall, a unique traveling memorial which constantly tours the United States, recently made a week-long visit to the Eagle Point Veteran's Association Cemetery.

Wanted: Used Wheelchair

The Association's museum is looking for a wheelchair to accommodate visitors who have trouble walking. If you live locally and know of someone who would like to donate one, please inform the CWHA president. Thanks for your help!

CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 2373
White City, Oregon 97503

Colista Moore
Woodville Museum
Rogue River,OR 97537

Pictured above are shirts and caps we have for sale. They represent the 91st Division and each of the other services. The Army shirt is light grey. Sizes available: X-large, large, medium (only 2 small in the 91st shirt and NO small in the other services).

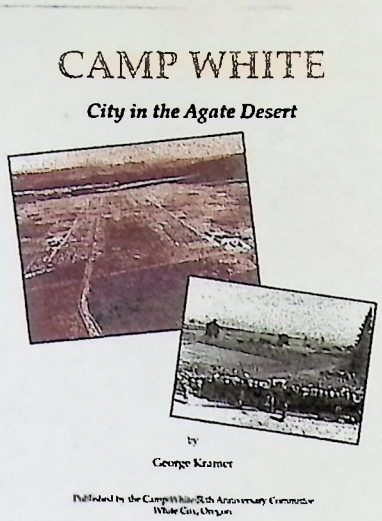
Our Camp White/91st shirt is white with the 91st Division picture on the front. The cap has a green bill with a green fir tree emblem on the front.

MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER PRICES

Shirts are $10.80 Caps are $7.20
There is a $3.00 charge for postage if ordering by mail.

NON-MEMBER PRICES

Shirts are $12.00 Caps are $8.00
There is a $3.00 charge for postage if ordering by mail.



All about the building of Camp White, the activities that took place there during WWII, and what happened to the Camp after the war.

$10.00 plus $3.00 for postage

All about the 91st Fir Tree Division that was re-activited when Camp White opened, the training, the POW's, the 91 mile march, and other activities at the Camp.

$10.00 plus $3.00 postage

CAMP WHITE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2373, WHITE CITY, OREGON 97503

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Al Inlow, President
Betty Welburn, Vice Pres.
Judie Bunch, Secretary
Rod Boren Exec. Director
Robert Prater, Treasurer
Curtis Tessman
Bill Seibert
Emmett Ramey
Delmar Hussey

NATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Jim Bell, OK
Jim Christopher, TX
Grace Stewart, SC
Roy Livengood, KS

Dear Member,

The **holidays** and **gift-giving** are just around the corner. Enclosed is a list of items on sale at Camp White Military Museum that may help make your gift selections easier. Look through our flyer then make your choices. It's easy to order, just mark the quantity you want on the line showing the size you want. T-shirts are available in sizes **X-Large**, **Large**, and **Medium** (we have only two 91st Division T-shirt in size small).

Al Inlow
PRESIDENT CWHA & M

91st Division T-shirt: XL____ L____ M____ 91st Cap: Qty___

Army T-shirt: XL____ L____ M____ Army Cap: Qty___

Navy T-shirt: XL____ L____ M___ Navy Cap: Qty___

Air Force T-shirt: XL____ L____ M____ Air Force Cap: Qty___

Marine T-shirt: XL____ L____ M____ Marine Cap: Qty___

Book: *Camp White: The 91st Infantry Division* Qty____

Book: *Camp White, City in the Agate Desert* Qty____

SHIP TO: Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Any two items sent to same address is only $3.00 postage. Make checks payable to:

Camp White Historical Association
PO Box 2373, White City, OR 97503